

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 EUR-12 IO-13 CU-02 AID-05 /088 W  
-----104262 090019Z /62

R 081325Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4297

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4207

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SEDU, ET  
SUBJ: POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION IN ADDIS ABABA

SUMMARY: JULY 6 AMHARIC RADIO CONVOKED ALL ADDIS ABABA  
TEACHERS TO MEET IN RESPECTIVE SCHOOLS FOLLOWING DAY,  
ALTHOUGH SCHOOL YEAR NOW COMPLETE. RELIABLE SOURCE  
REPORTED MEETINGS HELD MORNING JULY 7 TO SELECT VOLUNTARILY  
26 TEACHERS FROM EACH SCHOOL FOR TWO-MONTH POLITICAL  
INDOCTRINATION COURSE. CITY-WIDE PROGRAM WOULD INVOLVE  
APPROXIMATELY 3,000 TEACHERS DURING FIRST PHASE. SIMUL-  
TANEOUSLY, LEADERS AND MEMBERS BEING SELECTED FROM EACH  
ADDIS ABABA URBAN DWELLERS' ASSOCIATION (THERE CURRENTLY  
291 KEBELES IN ADDIS) TO PARTICIPATE IN SEPARATE INDOC-  
TRINATION PROGRAM. THERE ALSO RUMOR COMPETITION  
INTENSIFYING AMONG FIVE MARXIST-LENINIST GROUPS SUPPORTED  
BY PROVISIONAL OFFICE FOR MASS ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS  
(POMOA), DESPITE JOINT COMMUNIQUE PLEDGING UNITED  
FRONT TO ESTABLISH WORKERS' PARTY. END SUMMARY.

1. DESPITE APPARENT SUCCESS IN KEEPING ADDIS ABABA  
SCHOOLS OPEN THROUGH END OF JUST-COMPLETED SCHOOL  
YEAR, ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT (EPMG) APPEARS TO HAVE  
CONCLUDED NOT MUCH LEARNING OCCURRED, AND STUDENTS  
ATTENDED MORE OUT OF FEAR OF KEBELE REPRISALS.

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PRESENCE OF SOLDIERS AT EACH SCHOOL TO ENSURE SAFETY  
OF TEACHERS, WHICH ONLY PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL (NUMBER  
OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOL DIRECTORS ASSASSINATED ANYWAY),  
FURTHER INDICATION STUDENTS STILL POSE SECURITY  
PROBLEM FOR EPMG. IN APPARENT EFFORT TO AMERLIORATE  
SITUATION, EPMG HAS DECIDED TO USE SUMMER VACATION  
PERIOD TO GIVE TWO-MONTH, FULL-TIME POLITICAL INDOC-

TRINATION COURSE TO ADDIS ABABA TEACHERS. IN IRST PHASE, 26 TEACHERS VOLUNTEERED TO PARTICIPATE FROM EACH SCHOOL, PROBABLY 3,000 IN ALL, FOR ANNOUNCED PURPOSE OF "FIGHTING ANARCHISM" IN RESPECTIVE SCHOOLS. OTHER "COURSES" ENVISAGED FOR CHRISTMAS AND FOLLOWING SUMMER HOLIDAYS. ALSO AT JULY 7 MEETING TO SELECT PARTICIPANTS, TEACHERS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CONTRIBUTE MONTH'S SALARY OVER ONE YEAR TO DEFENSE CAMPAIGN IN ADDITION TO 5 PERCENT ALREADY PLEDGED.

2. IN PARALLEL DEVELOPMENT, RELIABLE SOURCE REPORTED POMOA CADRES IN PROCESS OF SELECTING LEADERS AND ORDINARY KEBELE MEMBERS FROM EACH OF 291 ADDIS ABABA KEBELES, ALSO FOR PURPOSE OF POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION. IT RUMORED THOSE SELECTED WILL BECOME BOARDERS AT YEKATIT 66 POLITICAL IDEOLOGY SCHOOL, BUT FOLLOW COURSE DIFFERENT FROM TEACHERS TAILORED TO KEBELE NEEDS. THERE PERCEPTION AMONG SOME ETHIOPIANS KEBELES LOSING STRENGTH AS THEIR LEADERS MORE AND MORE FREQUENT TARGETS OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT ASSASSINS. ONE ESTIMATE WITHIN MINISTRY OF HOUSING, WHICH DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR KEBELES, IS THAT MORE THAN 100 KEBELE LEADERS, AND POSSIBLY AS HIGH AS 165, HAVE BEEN KILLED SINCE NOVEMBER 1976 ELECTIONS. INDOCTRINATION MAY BE EFFORT TO REINFORCE KEBELE RESOLVE TO PRESERVE REVOLUTUION AND TO BOOST MORALE OF MEMBERS. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. INDOCTRINATION OF TEACHERS AND KEBELE MEMBERS ALSO PROBABLY RELATED TO, IF NOT IN FACT DIRECT RESULT OF, INCREASING COMPETITION AMONG VIVE MARXIST-LENINIST GROUPS THAT APPARENTLY HAVE TACIT EPMG APPROVAL TO EXIST AND EVENTUALLY FORM WORKERS' PARTY. PRE-EMINENT AMONG FIVE GROUPS ARE ALL ETHIOPIAN SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION (AESO) AND REVOLUTIONARY FLAME. (OTHER THREE ARE LABOR LEAGUE, MALERIDE, AND ETHIOPIAN OPPRESSED REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE (ICAT). WHILE AESO HAS BEEN STRONGEST CIVILIAN GROUP IN PAST WITH HAILE FIDA AT ITS HEAD, AESO NOW APPEARS FACING POSSIBLE CONFRONTATION WITH PROVISIONAL MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (PMAC) SURROGATE GROUP, REVOLUTIONARY FLAME, REPOTEDLY HEADED BY PMAC MEMBER MSGT. LEGESSE ASFAW. RELIABLE SOURCES REPORT REVOLUTIONARY FLAME HAS BEEN RECRUITING HEAVILY AMONG SOLDIERS, POLICE, AND BUREAUCRACY SINCE MENGISTU'S RETURN FROM MOSCOW LAST MAY, IN ANTICIPATION OF ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKERS' PARTY. AESO, CONSCIOUS OF FLAME ACTIVITIES, MAY HAVE DECIDED TO ENTER FRAY WHOLEHEARTEDLY AND BEGUN RECRUITING DRIVE OF ITS OWN. MINISTERS OF HOUSING AND OF EDUCATION BOTH DEDICATED AESO SUPPORTERS WHO MAY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CON-

VINCE PMAC IT NECESSARY TO INDOCTRINATE TEACHERS AND  
KEBELE MEMBERS TO "PRESERVE GAINS OF REVOLUTION", WHILE  
IN FACT PURSUING AESO GOALS.

4. COMMENT: IT DIFFICULT TO DISCERN AT THIS STAGE  
WHETHER CITY-WIDE INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM SINCERE EPMG  
EFFORT TO SOLVE SCHOOL AND KEBELE PROBLEMS OR MERELY  
AESO RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN TO REINFORCE ITS POSITION,  
VIS-A-VIS OTHER MARXIST-LENINIST GROUPS. THERE ALSO  
CONTINUING EPMG RECOGNITION ADDIS ABABA HARD "REACTIONARY"  
NUT TO CRACK, DESPITE ITS EFFORTS TO GAIN URBAN SUPPORT  
THROUGH BOTH CONCILIATION AND REPRESSION.  
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## Message Attributes

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